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I think I am quite warranted in saying that the next two weeks will either show a dying out of the disease, or an epidemic, and indications point to the former. The quarantining of the island would result in great loss to an already distressed community. I believe that our quarantine officials are particularly lenient in the case of perishable fruit cargoes, and as cold weather is rapidly approaching, with the consequent slight danger of the introduction of the disease in northern ports, while my bills of health will be sufficient to quarantine vessels in southern ports, I beg leave to suggest that, pending further progress of the disease, I be instructed to forbid the carrying of passengers to northern ports, under penalty of the quarantine, if this should meet the views of the quarantine officials.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

LOUIS A. DENT,
United States Consul.

Hon. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE.

TURKEY.

Sanitary report from Constantinople.

[Report No. 175.]

CONSTANTINOPLE, *September 29, 1897.*

I have written in my last report that a young lady, a pupil of the American school at Scutari, died suddenly in the house of a person of high standing, which death has been announced by the Russian sanitary representative. I am able to state that, according to what has been officially reported at the sitting of the sanitary commission, the above-mentioned young lady was a Bulgarian, a pupil of the American school, and that her death is due to an intestinal perforation which caused peritonitis. The abdomen was swollen, the pulse filiform, there was vomiting, but no diarrhea. The Russian sanitary representative was easily convinced that there was no question of cholera or poisoning.

It was announced last week that at Zieleh, in vilayet of Van, Armenia, several sudden deaths had occurred among the population of that district. A medical inquest has been ordered by the International Sanitary Commission, and it has been officially stated that the public health in the vilayet of Van is perfect.

Another rumor was spread last week. It was about the existence of bubonic plague in the Caucasus. According to the official report forwarded by the Ottoman ambassador at St. Petersburg, there has been an epidemic of typhoid fever among the troops of that Russian province.

We have to deal now in Constantinople with many cases of influenza, whooping cough, and typhoid fever. During the week ended the 27th instant, 185 deaths have been registered for the town of Constantinople, of which 1 was from diphtheria, 2 from smallpox, and 6 from typhoid fever.

At the last sitting of the International Sanitary Commission there were two very long discussions, the first being about the way of building the hospitals in the lazaretto of Camaran (Red Sea). The cause of this long discussion was that a very few members of the above-mentioned sanitary commission, among whom was the French sanitary representative, insisted upon building said hospitals without water-closets

and without ceilings, but only with beam-bared roofing. We could not make him understand that ceilings are indispensable in that hot climate, not only on account of disinfection, but also for the stratum of air which prevents the hospital from being very hot. I do not think it necessary to lay stress on this subject, but I must report that the discussion will continue at the next sitting. I have to notice that all the buildings at the above-mentioned lazaretto have been built with double walls.

The second question was a juridical one. The sanitary board has been condemned to pay 2,600 Turkish liras, that makes nearly \$15,000, to a sheep trader who claims that his sheep died in consequence of the order issued by the International Sanitary Commission to submit to quarantine the coast of Caramania (Asia Minor). The sanitary officials at the Dardanelles told him to land the sheep which do not undergo quarantine, and to undergo it himself with the ship. He wanted to go back to his country in Caramania. It was to be supposed that the cattle would suffer and die. He brought suit against the sanitary board, and the tribunal (nobody knows the reason) has condemned the above-mentioned sanitary administration, the duty of which is to prevent the spread of epidemics. The above-mentioned quarantine was ordered on account of the existence of cholera in the coast of Caramania.

SPIRIDION C. ZAVITZIANO,
United States Sanitary Commissioner.

Hon. SECRETARY OF STATE.

STATISTICAL REPORTS.

BAHAMAS—*Dunmore town*.—Two weeks ended October 8, 1897. Estimated population 1,472. One death. No deaths from contagious disease.

Governors Harbor.—Two weeks ended October 9, 1897. Estimated population 1,500. No deaths.

Green Turtle Cay—Abaco.—Two weeks ended October 7, 1897. Estimated population 3,900. No deaths.

CUBA—*Manzanillo*.—Two weeks ended September 30, 1897. Estimated population 20,000. Total deaths 132, including 1 from enteric fever.

GREAT BRITAIN—*England and Wales*.—The deaths registered in 33 great towns in England and Wales during the week ended October 2 correspond to an annual rate of 16.8 a thousand of the aggregate population, which is estimated at 10,992,524. The highest rate was recorded in Liverpool, viz, 23.7, and the lowest in Cardiff, viz, 11.7 a thousand.

London.—One thousand three hundred and thirteen deaths were registered during the week, including measles, 29; scarlet fever, 19; diphtheria, 49; whooping cough, 22; enteric fever, 17, and diarrhea and dysentery, 43. The deaths from all causes correspond to an annual rate of 15.3 a thousand. In greater London, 1,714 deaths were registered, corresponding to an annual rate of 14.2 a thousand of the population. In the "outer ring" the deaths included 14 from diphtheria, 5 from measles, 2 from scarlet fever, and 6 from whooping cough.

Ireland.—The average annual death rate represented by the deaths registered during the week ended October 2 in the 23 principal town districts of Ireland was 24.0 a thousand of the population. The lowest